

paying the Social Security commitments that we have made to the elderly, not a bankrupt America that cannot take care of its commitments.

Mr. Speaker, what I say today is to do that, we have to pass a balanced budget amendment. We have to get done with the quibbling, the talking about unimportant things, and pass a balanced budget amendment with a three-fifths tax increase vote.

IN MEMORY OF ROSE FITZGERALD KENNEDY

(Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy, the matriarch of America's most celebrated political family, who passed away on Sunday surrounded by family and friends at her home in Hyannis Port, MA. She was 104. Her remarkable life spanned a century and saw great triumph and despair, but through it all Rose Kennedy always carried herself with the characteristic grace, style, and dignity that became her trademark.

Born in 1890, Rose Elizabeth Fitzgerald was introduced to politics at an early age by her father, the former Congressman and mayor of Boston, John F. "Honeyfitz" Fitzgerald. A gifted student who spoke several languages, she graduated from Convent of the Sacred Heart in Boston and at age 24 married businessman Joseph Patrick Kennedy.

In the next 18 years Joseph and Rose Kennedy had nine children. One would be elected President of the United States. Two served in the Senate. And another became Ambassador to Ireland. But with every great victory, there always seemed to be an even greater loss—in Dallas in 1963, and again in Los Angeles 5 years later.

It was during these times of great sorrow that Americans saw the strength of Rose Kennedy, the deep convictions, and the intense and unyielding dedication to her faith. In her quiet manner she inspired millions of Americans, and helped us overcome our collective grief.

She will be remembered as an outgoing daughter, a caring wife, a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. In the words of her son, John Kennedy, "She was the glue that held the family together." She is being buried in Boston today. May she rest in peace.

CALL FOR REDUCED FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

(Mr. BARR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, during the recently concluded campaign, which culminated in the landslide victory for

myself and many other candidates all across this land, we heard a message loud and clear. That message was: less government, lower taxes, and less regulation.

Mr. Speaker, let us not engage as we have seen in recent days up here in the old Chinese torture of death by a thousand cuts, to engage in death by a thousand amendments.

We have heard that message. The message is, we the people of these United States want lower taxes, less Government, and less regulation. We will have the opportunity to stand tall before the American people this week and pass the unfunded mandates bill and pass a balanced budget amendment with a set of teeth in it; namely, the three-fifths majority to raise taxes.

This is what the people want. Let us give the people what they want, and they have spoken oh so eloquently. Let us take up that charge and do them proud.

CONTRACT WITH AMERICA DOES NOT ADD UP

(Mr. TORRES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, much ado has been made about the Republican Contract With America, especially the pie in the sky balanced budget amendment.

This publicity stunt demonstrates the mastery of soundbites by Republicans. But it is obvious that they are not masters of another area, and, that is, arithmetic. The contract just does not add up.

When the Republicans led the minority party, they had noting to lose. They could propose all sorts of empty, feel-good reforms because everybody knew they would not pass in this House. Even the great Houdini cannot cut taxes, increase defense spending, and balance the budget all at the same time.

But now you have the responsibility, my friends, to lead as the new majority. The bottom line on the budget is not whether you support it but how do you achieve it.

Mr. Speaker, President Clinton and the Democrats have worked hard to make the tough choices to cut the deficit and worked toward a balanced budget, all without a Republican vote.

Let us govern with integrity, not with gimmicks and soundbites.

SUPPORT OF H.R. 5 WOULD END UNFUNDED MANDATES

(Mr. CHAMBLISS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, this week the House will continue consideration of the second major piece of legislation outlined in the Contract With

America, the prohibition of unfunded mandates.

The overwhelming feeling in Georgia's Eighth District is that this Federal Government has grown too large. How have the people come to this conclusion? They see the obvious overreaching in the form of higher taxes and increased regulation.

But, Mr. Speaker, they also see the more subtle signs of a bloated, arrogant bureaucracy; namely, the unfunded mandate.

Mr. Speaker, there was a time in this country when the understood role of our Federal Government was to work at the will of the States that created it. It is high time we return to that understanding and put back into practice the system of Government that our forefathers intended for this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to show the American people we are committed to changing the way this Congress does business. Support H.R. 5 and put an end to unfunded mandates.

SUPPORT UNFUNDED MANDATE REFORM ACT AS AMENDED

(Ms. MCCARTHY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5, the Unfunded Mandate Reform Act, creates a process that ensures and recognizes that the Federal Government should not pass its obligations down to the State and local governments without adequate funding for its mandates.

As a cosponsor of the legislation and a former State legislative leader, I am very sensitive to the potential financial and administrative burdens that Federal unfunded mandates place on State governments.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that during this bipartisan debate, one should consider the scope and cost of these unfunded mandates. In the State of Missouri, for example, an analysis of estimated costs of unfunded mandates reveals that for fiscal year 1994, the costs were \$205 million, which represents a 57 percent increase since 1992.

The National Conference of State Legislatures finds that there are 172 Federal laws that require State and local governments to spend money on Federal mandate programs.

Further, estimated cost of unfunded mandates to States could be as high as \$500 billion annually. Similarly, the cost to cities could be \$54 billion over the next 4 years and counties across this country are spending close to \$5 billion a year complying with 12 specific mandates.

H.R. 5 responds to the growing concerns about the number and the cost of Federal mandates imposed on States and local governments by ensuring careful congressional consideration before the enactment of new mandates.

I support a number of very good amendments introduced to strengthen H.R. 5 while still retaining the basic thrust and affirming